

Wave

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Long Beach Water Department*

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www.longbeach.gov



Sea Festival fun in the sun. Go to www.SeaFestivalLongBeach.com for current events.

Facing the Drought in Southern California . . .

Long Beach Water Department Ready to Help

Drought and water shortage. Expect to hear these words a lot over the next few months. And when you do, remember they are not synonymous. One you can do nothing about, the other you can.

First, the drought. Southern California imports about half its drinking water over great distances: from the Colorado River and the Sacramento Delta/San Francisco Bay area. The Colorado River watershed is in the midst of the worst drought in modern history: there has been less than average rainfall in seven of the last eight years. The Sierra-Nevada watersheds in northern California also experienced a drier than normal winter, with runoff at about 75% of normal, but snow pack at only 30% of normal.

Southern California is also experiencing an extremely dry year, and the Long Beach area has been hit especially hard. Rain gages in our area have measured only about two inches of rain for this season, rather than the average of about 12 inches; or only about 17% of normal. Los Angeles is on-track to record its driest year ever, since record-keeping began in 1877.

Fortunately, droughts are not necessarily water shortages. Thanks to the foresight of those who made significant investments in water storage facilities, we are not facing any water reductions this year.

Furthermore, the people of Long Beach have done a spectacular job of conserving water. Although our population has increased significantly from the mid-1980s, our use of drinking water has basically remained the same. Congratulations!

But we should do more conservation, and we can (here's the part about how you can do something to keep a drought from becoming a shortage). It's all about using the water we have more efficiently. Don't waste water by taking long showers or letting the faucet run while brushing your teeth. Don't waste water by running the washing machine when it's only half full. Perhaps most importantly, don't waste water by over-watering our landscape. The water you waste is water we take from storage and cannot use in the future. Conversely, when you conserve water, it remains in storage for use in the future should the drought (which we cannot control) continue.

The Long Beach Water Department stands ready to help our customers use water more efficiently. We can help you reduce the amount of water wasted. Go to our website for information on landscape options, for information on rebates, and for other important information: www.lbwater.org

Thanks for your help . . .

Long Beach Successful in Recycling Efforts

Thanks to your recycling efforts, Long Beach is tied for number one in Solid Waste Diversion among the 50 largest cities across the United States. In Long Beach, 62 percent of the City's waste is diverted from landfills through recycling, reuse and waste reduction programs. SustainLane, an on-line media company which prepares a nationwide annual benchmark study on urban sustainability, prepared the 2006 rankings.

The City hopes to increase its diversion rate beyond the current 62 percent by expanding the types of recyclables accepted through its

recycling program. Previously, plastics marked with category numbers 1 - 4 were accepted. Now, the residential recycling program accepts all plastics marked with category numbers 5 - 7, which include items such as catsup bottles, yogurt containers, margarine tubs, medicine bottles, egg cartons, aspirin bottles and rigid polystyrene. Styrofoam will not be accepted.

The Environmental Services Bureau thanks the residents and businesses of Long Beach for creating a successful program through your continued recycling efforts.

Charter Communications presents The Long Beach Sea Festival

Exciting family fun and world-class athletes are beckoning residents and visitors once again this summer during Long Beach Sea Festival, presented by Charter Communications. The Sea Festival is a two-month series of events designed to entertain residents and visitors alike with beach and ocean sports and other activities.

The Long Beach Sea Festival features something for everybody, including professional beach volleyball; some of the world's best

female sailors competing in the Mayor's Cup; a grueling 54-mile water ski race to Catalina Island and back; a hugely popular sand castle-building contest; an extreme land-and-sea sports camp for people with disabilities; moonlight movies on the beach; a Polynesian Tiki Festival; model boat regatta, and the list goes on. Most of the events are free, so check out the complete schedule at www.seafestivallongbeach.com and enjoy the best of what Long Beach has to offer!

Come Walk and Ride at the New Wrigley Greenbelt

Los Angeles River walking, biking and equestrian trails are now more accessible thanks to a project sponsored by the Port of Long Beach. The project added more than 325 native trees and shrubs at and around the Wrigley Greenbelt at Deforest Avenue between Wardlow and 34th streets. A new decorative gate, which leads to L.A. River trail, was installed. The project was a partnership of the Port, the Long Beach Parks and Recreation and Public Works departments, L.A. County Department of Public Works and Long Beach Organic. The Port is bringing tree-planting projects to neighborhoods along the Long Beach (710) Freeway. For more information, visit www.polb.com.

Summer Reading Club for Long Beach Youth

Children ages 2-12 are invited to participate in the Long Beach Public Library's *Get a Clue @ Your Library*. After 25 days of reading, participants will receive a book prize and will be entered in a grand prize drawing for a backpack filled with cool stuff. In addition, neighborhood libraries and the Main Library will offer weekly special events, movies, games, and other mind-boggling programs.

YNK @ Your Library begins June 16 for all 6-12th grade students in Long Beach. For every three mini-book reviews, teens will receive a prize, plus an entry into a grand prize drawing for an iPod! In addition, the library will be offering a variety of special performances and crafts for teens.

City of Long Beach OFFICIAL NOTICE



ALL FIREWORKS ARE DANGEROUS

*All fireworks are illegal at all times
in the City of Long Beach*

Municipal Code Section 18.48.010

Including "SAFE & SANE" Fireworks

We care about your safety!



JOIN in the EXCITEMENT

and share your vision for

Long Beach in 2030!

We want to hear from you about the types of things that will make our city a healthy and more vibrant community in 2030.

Let us know your opinions on:

- How and where we will shop
- What our homes and neighborhoods will look like
- The types of activities and events in which the community will participate
- How we get around the city
- What we can do to preserve our history and natural resources

Please join us at Long Beach 2030
Community Festivals this summer!
Visit: www.longbeach2030.org